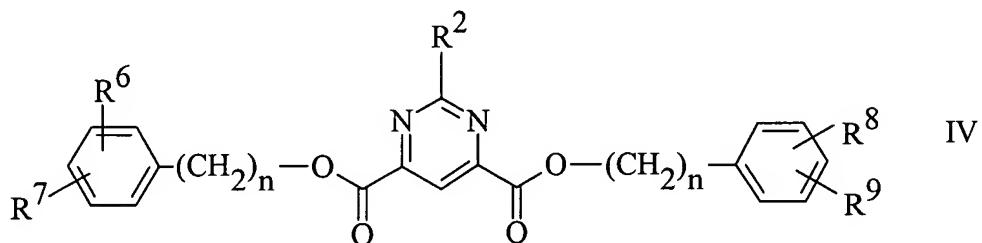


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:**Claims 1 to 8 (canceled).****Claim 9 (original).** A compound of Formula IV

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein Each n independently is an integer of from 0 to 6;

R² is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, NO₂, NR⁴R⁵, CN, or CF₃; and R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, and R⁹ independently are hydrogen, halo, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, nitro, or NH₂; R⁴ and R⁵ independently are H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, (CH₂)_n aryl, (CH₂)_n cycloalkyl, (CH₂)_n heteroaryl, or R⁴ and R⁵ when taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached complete a 3- to 8-membered ring containing carbon atoms and optionally containing a heteroatom selected from O, S, or NH, and optionally substituted or unsubstituted.

Claim 10 (canceled).**Claim 11 (currently amended).** A The compound selected from:

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-chloro benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) amide];~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) amide];~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy benzylamide), (4-methoxybenzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy benzylamide), (3-methoxybenzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carbomethoxy benzylamide), (3-methoxybenzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy benzylamide), (3-pyridylmethylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy benzylamide), (3-thiophenemethylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) amide];~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzooxadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) amide];~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (4-methoxybenzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (3-methoxybenzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid bis-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) ester;~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-chloro benzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-[(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) amide];~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-methoxybenzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(3-methoxybenzylamide);~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carboxybenzylamide); and~~

~~Pyrimidine 4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carbomethoxybenzylamide).~~

Claims 12 to 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (withdrawn). A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an MMP-13 inhibiting amount of a compound of Claim 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

Claims 16 to 21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (previously presented). A method for treating inflammation, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of Claim 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 23 (previously presented). A method for treating osteoarthritis, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of Claim 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 24 (previously presented). A method for treating rheumatoid arthritis, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound of Claim 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 25 (canceled).

Claim 26 (new). A method for treating inflammation, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of:
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-chloro-benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (4-methoxybenzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-methoxybenzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carbomethoxy-benzylamide), (3-methoxybenzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-pyridylmethylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-thiophenemethylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzooxadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (4-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (3-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid bis-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) ester;
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-chloro-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-[(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(3-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carboxy-benzylamide); and
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carbomethoxy-benzylamide), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 27 (new). A method for treating osteoarthritis, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of:
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-chloro-benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (4-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carbomethoxy-benzylamide), (3-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-pyridylmethylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-thiophenemethylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzooxadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (4-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (3-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid bis-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) ester;
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-chloro-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-[(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(3-methoxy-benzylamide);
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carboxy-benzylamide); and
Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carbomethoxy-benzylamide), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 28 (new). A method for treating rheumatoid arthritis, comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of:

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-chloro-benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (4-methoxy-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-methoxy-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carbomethoxy-benzylamide), (3-methoxy-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-pyridylmethylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (4-carboxy-benzylamide), (3-thiophenemethylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzooxadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, [(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (4-methoxy-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, (2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-5-ylmethyl) amide, (3-methoxy-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid bis-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) ester;

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-chloro-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-[(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl)-amide];

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-methoxy-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(3-methoxy-benzylamide);

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carboxy-benzylamide); and

Pyrimidine-4,6-dicarboxylic acid, bis-(4-carbomethoxy-benzylamide), or a
pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.